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ABSTRACT

This step-by-step guide gives librarians the information to develop successful, collaborative ventures with other organizations in an effort to provide comprehensive and integrated services for children and families. Each chapter outlines steps to take in the creation of a family-centered library environment. The topics discussed are: serving children within the family context; developing library-based family support services; changing libraries to meet the needs of changing families; providing parent education and support; exploring new partnerships to create new services; developing strategies for service; building resource collections for families; and providing more for families through the sharing of resources. The book consists of 13 chapters: (1) Getting Started; (2) Coalition Building: An Overview; (3) Coalition Building: Model Networks; (4) Building Family Support Services: Guidelines; (5) Model Library-Based Family Support Services; (6) Collaborations: Forging a New Identity; (7) Funding Basics; (8) Competencies: Redefining Our Skills; (9) Competencies: Educating Ourselves and Others; (10) Evaluating: Letting Quality Service Speak for Itself; (11) Building a Family Support Collection: Guidelines; (12) Building a Family Support Collection: Print and Nonprint Resources; (13) Internet Resources: Families Online. Appendices include: letters and forms for coalition building; grant information; services, surveys, and evaluation forms; publicity materials; self study for children's librarians; parent satisfaction survey; parent education and support checklist; and national agencies and organizations. (Author/AEF)

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